

Benefits of Attendance

Collaborative Learning Environment
Joint Service and DoD Agency Interaction
First-Hand Senior Leader Perspectives
Health & Wellness Opportunities
Improved Communications Skills
Career Development Guidance
Whole-Person Resource Management Education

Course Calendar

To see upcoming classes, please see our website for the latest course schedule:

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/ecpd/dfmcs/>

Additional Information

Nomination Procedures

Please see our website for service/agency specific details regarding nominations for students.

Guest Speakers

DFM&CS may also be able to provide guest speakers for your local education and training events.

For more information on what our school has to offer, please visit our website at:

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/ecpd/dfmcs/>



DFM&CS

"FM Education... Ready and Relevant"

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Defense Financial Management & Comptroller School

"FM Education... Ready and Relevant"



IRA C. EAKER CENTER
FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA

Defense Financial Management Course (DFMC)

The Defense Financial Management Course (DFMC) bridges the gap between technical functions and broad financial management and leadership. The school engages resident faculty, adjunct professors, guest speakers, auditorium teaching, seminars, practical exercises, and evolving technology to broaden student awareness of the DoD financial management community and its challenges. The course is designed to develop critical thinking, analytical, leadership and conflict resolution skill sets. It also works to take foundational financial management skills to the next level. In addition to a personality assessment, students have the option to sign up for various electives, such as “Speakeasy” to practice communication skills. DFMC’s curriculum has three foundational pillars:

- Leadership & Communication
- DoD Strategic & Financial Management Environment
- Decision Support

DFMC’s highly qualified faculty presents the foundational principles and practices for each instructional area. Guest lecturers then reinforce the instruction, relating it to “real world” applications. Methodologies range from readings, practical exercises, role-playing, student-led discussions, instructor-guided problem solving discussions, and realistic case studies. Students are divided into seminars mixed by Service, experience, and status (military or civilian). This collaborative environment greatly enriches the learning experience.

Student achievement of educational objectives is measured using several methods including exams, written and oral presentations, seminar participation and problem solving exercises. Students are expected to actively participate, formulate individual and group goals, and successfully complete homework and test requirements. Exams are comprised of multiple choice questions requiring critical thinking. The course is challenging and taught at the graduate level.

DFM&CS

“FM Education... Ready and Relevant”

Educating resource managers since 1968, the Defense Financial Management and Comptroller School’s (DFM&CS) mission is to provide world-class executive financial management education for Department of Defense personnel by delivering advanced course work in a joint learning environment. DFM&CS currently offers two courses for FM and other resource managers across the DoD. The Defense Financial Management Course (DFMC) is a four-week combined course offered at Maxwell AFB. Students have one week of online pre-work and complete the remaining three weeks in-residence at Maxwell AFB. The Defense Decision Support Course (DDSC) is four days and is available in residence at Maxwell or as a mobile course at selected locations worldwide.

Students earn 27 continuing education credits for DDSC and 117 for DFMC. DFMC students also earn four graduate credit hours. Both of these courses introduce skills students can and will use in the future.

The target audience for both courses is as follows:

- GS-12 and above (or lower with waiver)
- O-4 and above (or lower with waiver)
- E-8/9 (or lower with waiver; Air Force E-9s are not eligible for DFMC)



Defense Decision Support Course (DDSC)

The DDSC provides resource managers with basic techniques for identifying an issue and generating viable alternatives, highlighting financial and non-financial impacts associated with each alternative, and providing well-supported recommendations. Course graduates explore tools that enable themselves and other decision makers to arrive at informed decisions to better allocate scarce resources and improve mission effectiveness. They also learn personal applications of decision support. The course includes communication skills integral to conveying results to senior leaders and other users. DDSC areas of focus include:

- Introduction to Decision Support
- Qualitative Skills
- Quantitative Skills/Tools
- Critical Thinking and Risk Management
- Practical Exercises and Case Studies

Students will begin DDSC with a practical exercise in teambuilding, understanding group dynamics, forming an “informed” consensus, and providing recommendations based on that consensus. This exercise provides a common experience that serves as a foundation for the rest of the course. The course then takes students through the five steps of the decision support model. Students will explore “real world” scenarios submitted by their colleagues and end the course with a Capstone exercise. The Capstone exercise requires the use of all the tools and techniques previously discussed, preparing students to provide better decision support in the future.

